Production No. 9F21

The Simpsons

"HOMER'S BARBERSHOP QUARTET"

Written by

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"HOMER'S BARBERSHOP QUARTET"

by

Jeff Martin

Cast List

HOMERDAN CASTELLANETA
MARGEJULIE KAVNER
BARTNANCY CARTWRIGHT
LISAYEARDLEY SMITH
GRAMPADAN CASTELLANETA
MAYOR QUIMBYDAN CASTELLANETA
MOEHANK AZARIA
FLANDERSHARRY SHEARER
MAN AT TABLEHANK AZARIA
MILHOUSEPAMELA HAYDEN
NELSONNANCY CARTWRIGHT
PRINCIPAL SKINNERHARRY SHEARER
HERMANHARRY SHEARER
JUST STAMP THE TICKET MAN.HANK AZARIA
SPEEDED UP VOICESHANK/DAN/HARRY
ANGRY MANHANK AZARIA
MELVINHARRY SHEARER
COMIC BOOK GUYHANK AZARIA

APU.....HANK AZARIA BARNEY.....DAN CASTELLANETA JAILBIRD......HANK AZARIA TEENAGE JAIL KID.....DAN CASTELLANETA REVEREND LOVEJOY......HARRY SHEARER ALL.....HANK/DAN/HARRY NIGEL.....HARRY SHEARER CROWD.....DAN/HANK/HARRY/JULIE/NANCY/ YEARDLEY/PAMELA PAUL HARVEY......HARRY SHEARER REPORTER #2......PAMELA HAYDEN REPORTER #3......DAN CASTELLANETA TEENAGE GIRL #1.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT TEENAGE GIRL #2......PAMELA HAYDEN PRESIDENT REAGAN......HARRY SHEARER PANICKY MAN......DAN CASTELLANETA TALK SHOW HOST......HARRY SHEARER GROUNDSKEEPER WILLIE....DAN CASTELLANETA TENOR......DAN CASTELLANETA SIDEKICK......HANK AZARIA MRS. WIGGUM......PAMELA HAYDEN FEMALE TALK SHOW HOST...HARRY SHEARER

DAVID CROSBY......HIMSELF

TEENAGE BELLBOYDAN CASTELLANETA
SURLY MANHANK AZARIA
KAKOPAMELA HAYDEN
MAN IN LEDERHOSENDAN CASTELLANETA
RALPHISH BOYNANCY CARTWRIGHT
SANJAYHARRY SHEARER
PAUL MCCARTNEYHIMSELF
LOUHANK AZARIA
HUMAN FLYDAN CASTELLANETA
PAPER BOYNANCY CARTWRIGHT
MANDAN CASTELLANETA
BE SHARPSHARRY/HANK/DAN
TWO YEAR-OLD LISAYEARDLEY SMITH

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ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. SPRINGFIELD SWAP MEET - DAY

SCENE 1

A banner reads: "Springfield Swap Meet." There is a drawing of a cornucopia filled with auto parts, old clothes, a TV with a coat hanger for its antenna, etc.. PAN DOWN to DIAMOND JOE QUIMBY, surveying the scene from his podium.

MAYOR QUIMBY

(TO SELF) Human roaches. Feeding off each other's garbage. The only thing you can't buy here is dignity. (TAPS MIKE) (HAPPILY) Welcome swappers to the Springfield Swap meet. Ich Bin Eine Springfield Swap Meet Patron!

The audience APPLAUDS

MAYOR QUIMBY (CONT'D)

(TO SELF GLUMLY) I need a drink and a shower.

ANGLE MOE

Under a sign "HANDICRAFTS By MOE" (with the "Moe" written in flowing script), MOE hawks a display of oyster shells with painted-on lipstick and eyelashes.

MOE

Oyster shells, hand painted to resemble Lucille Ball! You'll love Oyster Lucy! (MOVES OYSTER SHELL, IMITATING LUCY) Oh Mr. Mooney, I just gotta meet Bob Cummings. Vivvv!!!

ANGLE - FLANDERS

BART, MILHOUSE, and NELSON stop at the FLANDERS' table, where a sign reads: "FREE TRADING CARDS."

BART

Oh boy! Free trading cards!

The boys pick up elaborate Biblical trading cards, which we see.

MILHOUSE

Wow, Joseph of Aramathia! (FLIPS IT OVER) Twenty-six conversions in A.D. 46!

NELSON

Whoa, a Methuselah rookie card!

FLANDERS

Well, boys, who'd have thought learning about religion could be fun?

BART

(SPOOKED) Religion?

MILHOUSE

(SPOOKED) Learning?

NELSON

Let's get outta here!

They run away.

FLANDERS

Hey!

ANGLE ON LISA

SCENE 2

At a table with toys, games and dolls.

LISA

Wow an original Malibu Stacey from 1958. (NOTICING BREASTS) Oh my.

We see a vintage girl doll. The bosoms are unnaturally huge and pointy.

MAN AT TABLE

(WISE GUY VOICE) Yeah. They took her off the market after some kid put both his eyes out.

LISA

Really, how?

MAN AT TABLE

He tried to kiss it.

ANGLE - HERMAN'S TABLE

At HERMAN'S table of Military Souvenirs, PRINCIPAL SKINNER examines an "iron mask," a metal cylinder with an eye slit.

PRINCIPAL SKINNER

"Prisoner 24601"... (CHUCKLES) Why, I wore this for two years in a Viet Cong internment center. Never thought I'd see the old girl again.

He slips it on.

PRINCIPAL SKINNER (CONT'D)

(SLIGHT ECHO) Still fits.

HERMAN

Small world.

PRINCIPAL SKINNER

(ECHO) It is, it really really is.

ANGLE HOMER

He's at MRS. GLICK'S table, looking through a big box of stuff labelled "ALL ITEMS \$5." He picks up and rejects, in order, an original copy of the Declaration of Independence, a copy of Action Comics Number 1, a sheet of stamps, and a violin.

HOMER

Junk... junk... the airplane's upside

down... Strad-i-who-vius?...

Then he pulls out an old bucket with the bottom rusted away.

HOMER (CONT'D)

Hey, hey!

ANGLE - SIMPSON TABLE

SCENE 3

MARGE is talking to the "JUST STAMP THE TICKET" MAN.

MARGE

Your teenage son or daughter will think this wishbone necklace is really "cool."

JUST STAMP THE TICKET MAN

I doubt my son or daughter is that stupid.

MARGE

(MURMUR)

"JUST STAMP THE TICKET MAN" walks away as Homer runs up with his purchase.

HOMER

Hey, Marge, look what I just bought.

An old bucket!

MARGE

(MURMURS) It doesn't have a bottom.

HOMER

(MOANS) You're right. What was I

thinking? Worthless piece of junk.

Homer throws the bucket away. The bucket lands in the foreground and rolls toward the camera. We see an inscription. "THIS BUCKET PROPERTY OF ABE LINCOLN."

ANGLE - COMIC BOOK GUY

The COMIC BOOK GUY peels the breading off a corndog and eats it as Bart and LISA check out his table. Bart picks up an album with the cover: "'S Wonderful, 'S Marvelous, 'S Krusty" -- Krusty holding a microphone and wearing a tux. Bart pulls out an album labelled: "Melvin and the Squirrels" featuring three squirrels that resemble human boys in sweaters with their initials on their sweaters.

BART

What the hell is this?

COMIC BOOK GUY

(MOUTH FULL) Melvin and the

Squirrels. Part of the rodent

invasion of the early 60s.

He sets it on a turntable and we hear three speeded up voices SINGING "Yankee Doodle."

SPEEDED UP VOICES

"Stuck a feather in his cap and

called it... "

MELVIN

(SPEEDED UP) Rice-a-Roni!

ANGRY MAN

Mel-vin!

Lisa picks up another album and GASPS.

LISA

Bart, look! It's Dad!

CLOSE-UP - ALBUM COVER

SCENE 4

It's a record called "BARBERSHOP IS HERE TO STAY!" Homer, wearing a straw boater, is a member of the pictured quartet.

BART

Dad, when did you record an album?

HOMER

I'm surprised you don't remember, son. It was only eight years ago.

BART

Dad, thanks to television, I can't remember what happened eight minutes ago.

Everyone LAUGHS.

BART (CONT'D)

No, really, I can't. It's a serious problem.

Everyone LAUGHS again. Bart joins in the LAUGHTER
BART

(LAUGHING) What are we all laughing about?

Everyone continues to LAUGH.

HOMER

Who cares?

HOMER

Anyway, it all happened during that magical summer of 1985... A maturing Joe Piscopo left "Saturday Night Live" to conquer Hollywood... People Express introduced a generation of hicks to plane travel... and I was in a barbershop quartet...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. MOE'S TAVERN - CONTINUOUS

Inside the bar Homer, Skinner, WIGGUM and APU hop up on stage. Wiggum BLOWS on a pitch pipe.

PRINCIPAL SKINNER

(SINGING) Hello...

HOMER

(SINGING) Hello...

WIGGUM

(SINGING) Hello...

APU

(SINGING) Hello...

ALL

(SINGING) Hello, ma baby/ hello, ma honey/ hello, ma ragtime, ragtime gal/ Send me a kiss by wire... etc.

PAN across the quartet as they SING a nifty barbershop rendition of the old song.

HOMER (V.O.)

Every afternoon at Moe's, Chief
Wiggum, Principal Skinner, Apu and I
would get together and sing... and
the crowds went wild.

As they SING they are pelted with roses and women's panties.

REVERSE ANGLE

We see only BARNEY in the audience. He waves at the group.

BARNEY

Yoo hoo!

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SWAP MEET - THE PRESENT

BART

Barbershop! That kind of music hasn't been popular since grandma had hair.

HOMER

Rock 'n' roll had become stagnant.

"Achy Breaky Heart" was seven years
away. Something had to fill the
void, and that something was
barbershop...

DISSOLVE TO:

MONTAGE SCENE 5

of the quartet singing at various venues.

1) OLD FOLKS HOME

The four are on stage. The OLD FOLKS watch.

PRINCIPAL SKINNER

(SINGING) Goodbye ...

HOMER

(SINGING) Goodbye...

WIGGUM

(SINGING) Goodbye...

APU

(SINGING) Goodbye ...

ALL

(SINGING) Goodbye, my Coney Island

Baby.

GRAMPA

That's my son up there.

OLD MAN

What, the balding fat-ass?

GRAMPA

(LYING) No, the Hindu guy.

2) SPRINGFIELD PENITENTIARY

They perform for the PRISONERS.

ALL

(SINGING) Never to see you any...

WIGGUM

(SINGING) Never gonna see you any...

ANGLE - JAILBIRD

Brandishing rock.

JAILBIRD

I'm gonna nail that cop right between the eyes.

Jailbird starts to smile and sway to the music.

JAILBIRD (CONT'D)

(SOFTENING) Right after this song is over.

DISSOLVE TO:

STAGE

The quartet finishes "Coney Island Babe."

QUARTET

(SINGING) Goodbye, my Coney Island Babe.

The audience APPLAUDS enthusiastically. The quartet bows. A rock flies in from O.S. and HITS Wiggum right between the eyes and knocks him out. Jailbird LAUGHS.

3) CHURCH

The quartet SINGS while moving down the aisle with the collection baskets. The PARISHIONERS are throwing in fistfuls of money. Marge is there with little Bart and Lisa.

ALL

Goodbye, my Coney Island Baby/

Farewell, my own true love...

Homer leans into Marge. She gives a little SQUEAL.

At the altar, REVEREND LOVEJOY happily watches the money pour in. Flanders stands next to him in a choir robe.

REVEREND LOVEJOY

Ching, ching.

FLANDERS

You know, Reverend, this really isn't a hymn.

REVEREND LOVEJOY

(IRRITATED) Ned, would you go check the church marquee. I think some of the letters are loose.

FLANDERS

Oh my stars!

He dashes out.

INT. MOE'S TAVERN - DAY

SCENE 6

The quartet SINGS the rest of "Coney Island Baby" to an enthusiastic CROWD.

HOMER

(SINGS) So goodbye...

WIGGUM

(SINGS) Farewell...

APU

(SINGS) Shop Qwik-E-Mart and save...

ALL

Goodbye my Coney Isle/ Goodbye my

Coney Isle/ Goodbye my Coney Island

Babe!

As the crowd CHEERS Homer steps up to the bar. Moe draws him a beer. A flamboyant record producer, NIGEL, approaches Homer.

NIGEL

I got very excited watching you on that stage. I think I want to get behind you. (INTERESTED) Hmmm...

HOMER

I'm intrigued.

NIGEL

Is there someplace where we can be alone?

HOMER

How about the men's room?

NIGEL

Delicious.

INT. MOE'S TAVERN - MEN'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER Homer and Nigel are alone.

NIGEL

Homer, I'm a theatrical agent, and I want to represent your group.

HOMER

Really?

NIGEL

Yeah!

HOMER

We're not the greatest singers in the world.

NIGEL

I know that, but you've got something more important than talent. You've got... it! (DISTASTE) All except that police officer. (DISGUSTED NOISE) Too Village People. You'll have to replace him.

HOMER

But Chief Wiggum owns the pitch pipe!

NIGEL

With the money you're going to make, you'll be able to buy the Pitch Pipe Building!

He points out the window to a hundred-story building topped by an enormous pitch pipe, which for some reason we've never seen before.

INT. MOE'S TAVERN - BAR - MOMENTS LATER SCENE 7
Nigel meets the quartet.

PRINCIPAL SKINNER

(SHAKING HANDS) Principal Seymour Skinner.

NIGEL

That explains the blazer. Shudder.

APU

I am Apu Nahasapeemapetilon.

NIGEL

Never fit on a marquee, luv. From now on, your name is Apu Du Beaumarchais.

APU

It is a great dishonor to my ancestors and my God, but okay.

HOMER

Is there anything <u>I</u> should do different?

NIGEL

You don't change a thing.

Wiggum throws an arm around Homer's shoulder.

WIGGUM

This is great. And the best part of it is I'll be doing it with my pals. We're going to the top boys...

Together.

HOMER

(CLINKING GLASSES) Together!...

There's something else I'm supposed to mention... (REMEMBERS) Oh yeah.

You're out of the group.

WIGGUM

Oh I'm out of the... (SPIT TAKE) Ow! Right through the nose.

INT. REHEARSAL HALL - DAY

SCENE 8

Homer (with little Bart on his lap), Apu, and Skinner sit on folding chairs.

HOMER (V.O.)

The next day, we started auditioning for Chief Wiggum's replacement...

AUDITION MONTAGE

1) GRAMPA wears a tux and SNAPS his fingers.

GRAMPA

Old McDonald had a farm/ Ee-i-ee-i-o/
And on this farm he had a chick/
Swingingest chick I know/ With a
wiggle wiggle here and a wiggle
wiggle there...

HOMER

Get off the stage!

2) GROUNDSKEEPER WILLIE SINGS.

GROUNDSKEEPER WILLIE

When you're alone and life is getting you lonely, ye kin always go... Ach!

Doontoon!

APU

Next!

3) Chief Wiggum, wearing a fake mustache and top hat as a disguise, SINGS.

WIGGUM

If I could walk with the animals/
talk with the animals/ grunt and
squeak and squawk with the animals...
His mustache falls off.

PRINCIPAL SKINNER

(SHOCKED) Good Lord! Dr. Doolittle is Chief Wiggum!

WIGGUM

This bird's gonna fly!

Wiggum jumps out the window.

4) JASPER SINGS.

JASPER

Theeeeme... from "A Summer Place"...

from "A Summer Place" ... the

theme... from "A Summer Place" ...

It's the theme...

HOMER/SKINNER/APU

Next!

INT. MOE'S TAVERN

Homer, Skinner and Apu moodily stare at their drinks. SCN 9

HOMER (V.O.)

One lousy applicant after another!

It was like a scene out of "The

Commitments," "The Fabulous Baker

Boys," or "The Producers."

From the bathroom, they hear an astonishingly beautiful tenor.

TENOR (V.O.)

(SINGING) Over in Killarney/ So many

years ago...

APU

Such a voice!

PRINCIPAL SKINNER

Who is that?

TENOR

(SINGING) Me mither sang this song to me/ In tones so soft and (BELCH)...

HOMER/SKINNER/APU

Barney!

INT. MOE'S BATH ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Homer, Skinner and Apu BURST into the cruddy bathroom. Barney is crawling around on the floor.

BARNEY

(SINGING) Just a little Irish

ditty...

HOMER

Barney, how'd you like to sing for our group?

BARNEY

Sure, why not? Now where's me toothpick.

INT. MOE'S TAVERN - NIGHT

Barney is wearing a straw boater, striped jacket, and bowtie. The others are dressed similarly.

ANGLE AUDIENCE

The angry AUDIENCE holds signs reading: "Barney Stinks" and "Don't Flip Our Wiggum." An effigy of Barney is burning in the background.

CROWD

(CHANTING) Wiggum forever, Barney

never! Wiggum forever, Barney

never!...

WIGGUM

(CHUCKLES)

Marge, looking worried, is there with little Bart and Lisa.

BARNEY

(SINGS) Swe-ee-ee-eet Adeleine.

HOMER/APU/SKINNER

(SINGS) Sweet Adeleine.

Immediately, the crowd quiets down.

BARNEY

(SINGS) My-y-y-y-y Adeleine.

HOMER/APU/SKINNER

(SINGS) My Adeleine....

The girls SCREAM.

CROWD

Barney forever, Wiggum never! Barney

forever, Wiggum never!...

At the bar, Nigel watches with Moe.

MOE

Hey, those girls you paid to scream

are doing a great job.

NIGEL

I didn't pay any girls to scream.

MOE

(TOO BIG) Hanh?!!!

EXT. MOE'S TAVERN - 3:00 A.M.

SCENE 10

Bow ties loosened and coats slung over their shoulders, the quartet triumphantly walks out of Moe's and down the deserted street, AD-LIBBING "What a night!" "They wouldn't let us leave the stage!" "Eleven encores!"

PRINCIPAL SKINNER

Only one question remains gentlemen.

What do we call ourselves?

Nigel is feeling the crease of Homer's jacket.

NIGEL

How about Handsome Homer Simpson Plus Three?

BARNEY

I like it.

Skinner and Apu MUTTER disagreement.

SKINNER

We need a name that's witty at first but that seems less funny each time you hear it.

APU

How about The Be Sharps!

They all LAUGH. The LAUGH gets weaker and embarrassed.

SKINNER

Perfect.

HOMER

The Be Sharps.

ANGLE ON THE HANDS

Skinner places his hand on top.

PRINCIPAL SKINNER (V.O.)

The Be Sharps.

APU/BARNEY (V.O.)

The Be Sharps.

A slight beat, then.

WIGGUM (V.O.)

The Be Sharps. (NERVOUS CHUCKLE)

WIDEN OUT to reveal Wiggum. The others stare at him.

WIGGUM

Can't blame a guy for trying.

(NERVOUS CHUCKLE) You're all under arrest.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. SIMPSON CAR - PRESENT

SCENE 11

The family drives home from the Swap Meet. The back seat has various junk in it.

HOMER

What'd you kids get?

Bart holds up a bong.

BART

I bought this cool pencil holder.

HOMER

Boy, are you stupid. (TO SELF)

Doesn't even know what a bong is.

(LAUGHS)

MARGE

(SADLY) No one bought a wishbone

necklace.

HOMER

Well, one of us made some money. I

sold a guy our spare tire.

SFX: TIRE BLOWOUT

HOMER

(ANNOYED GRUNT)

EXT. HIGHWAY - EVENING

Homer, Bart and Lisa sit by the side of the road on a lonely stretch of desert highway. We see the top of Marge's blue hair over the horizon.

HOMER

(TO KIDS) It'll be a long time before your Mother gets back with the tire, so why don't I tell you more of the story? Now that we had a name, the Be Sharps needed a hit. Something new, something exciting, something mid-1980's...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - DAY

SCENE 12

Homer is noodling around on the piano trying to come up with a new song.

HOMER

(SINGING) Thanks to Edison/ we have light bulbs/ Thanks to Heimlich we don't choke/ But I'd really like to thank the guy/ who gave the world New Coke...

HOMER (CONT'D)

(TO SELF) Eh... None of those Edison songs are working.

He CRUMPLES the sheet music and throws it onto one of three over-flowing waste baskets, which are overflowing with pages of crumpled sheet music.

Marge enters carrying baby Lisa. She holds up a "Baby on Board" sign.

MARGE

Look what I got. Now people will stop intentionally ramming our car.

HOMER

Hmm... baby on board.

Homer turns back to the piano.

HOMER (CONT'D)

(SINGING) Baby on board/ something, something Burt Ward... (SPOKEN) This thing writes itself!

INT. RECORDING STUDIO - NEXT DAY

The Be Sharps are gathered around the microphone, SINGING the end of Homer's song.

BE SHARPS

(SINGING) ... I'm telling you, it's mighty nice/ each trip's a trip to paradise...

HOMER

(SINGING) With my...

BE SHARPS

(SINGING) Ba-by on board.

NIGEL

Gentlemen, you've just recorded your first number one.

The Be Sharps CHEER and exchange high-fives.

HOMER

Wait'll I tell Marge!

NIGEL

(SOURLY) Oh yes... Aunt Bee Hive... I would prefer we kept your marriage a secret. You see, a lot of women are going to want to have sex with you, and we want them to think they can.

HOMER

(RELUCTANT) Well... if I explain it to Marge that way, I'm sure she'll understand.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY Marge SOBS uncontrollably. Homer tries to comfort her.

HOMER

Come on, honey. It'll only be till we finish our tour of Sweden.

INT. SPRINGFIELD RETIREMENT CASTLE - CONTINUOUS SCENE 13 Grampa listens to the song on his old Motorola.

BE SHARPS (V.O)

Baby on board/ how I've adored/ that sign on my car's windowpane...

GRAMPA

That's my boy Homer singing! Jasper pokes his head in.

JASPER

Paul Harvey's on.

Grampa immediately spins the dial.

PAUL HARVEY (V.O.)

... and that little boy who nobody

liked grew up to be... Roy Cohn.

GRAMPA/JASPER

Wow!

PAUL HARVEY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

And now you know the <u>rest</u> of the story.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The family is listening to the radio.

BE SHARPS (V.O)

... with my ba-by on board.

MARGE

Homer, you're going to be famous!

HOMER

Yeah, but I'm not gonna let it change our lives. I'll be the same loving father I've always been.

Marge looks around.

MARGE

Have you seen Bart?

HOMER

I stuck him somewhere.

CUT TO:

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LAUNDRY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Bart is imprisoned under a laundry basket with two heavy rocks on top of it.

EXT. KENNEDY AIRPORT - NEW YORK - DAY SCENE 14

SUPER: THE NEXT DAY

The airport is packed with thousands of **SCREAMING** out-of-control FANS as the Be Sharps' plane lands. They wave to the crowd, like the Beatles in `64.

INT. AIRPORT - PRESS ROOM

Flashbulbs POP as the quartet takes questions from a mob of REPORTERS.

REPORTER #3

I have a question for Apu du Beaumarchais. Isn't it true that you're really an Indian?

APU

By the many arms of Vishnu, I swear it is a lie.

REPORTER #1

Barney, how did you join the group?

BARNEY

They found me on the men's room floor.

The reporters LAUGH.

CLOSE-UP BARNEY.

A single tear rolls down his cheek.

REPORTER #2

Principal Skinner...

SKINNER

Mm hmm?

REPORTER #2 (CONT'D)

You've been referred to as "The Funny

One." Is that reputation justified?

SKINNER

Yes. Yes it is.

More LAUGHTER.

EXT. SPRINGFIELD RETIREMENT CASTLE - DAY

Homer covers Grampa's eyes as he leads him out to the curb. Parked there is a big pink Cadillac with a huge red bow on the hood.

HOMER

Look what I got for you, Dad.

Homer removes his hands, revealing the Cadillac.

GRAMPA

Oh, Hom... (HEART ATTACK NOISES)

gimme the keys.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - NIGHT

HOMER (V.O)

The media crunch got so bad, I had to disguise myself so as not to attract attention.

Homer enters the house in a horse costume. He is the front half. The costume opens to reveal Nigel is the back half of the horse.

HOMER

Thanks, Nigel.

NIGEL

My pleasure.

INT. RECORD STORE - DAY

SCENE 15

We see a life-size cardboard cut-out of the Be Sharps in a Springfield record store. The cut-out has them in leaping poses a la The Beatles on the "Hard Days Night" album. Marge is shopping with Bart and Lisa among the kiddy records. Nearby, two TEENAGE GIRLS moon over the cut-out. Marge eavesdrops.

TEENAGE GIRL #1

I like Barney 'cause I can tell he's not gonna live very long.

TEENAGE GIRL #2

And, Homer's got the cutest

(WHISPERS).

TEENAGE GIRL #1

I hear he had a butt-lift.

MARGE

(INDIGNANT) He did not!

EXT. STATUE OF LIBERTY - NIGHT

The Be Sharps perform on a stage. A banner reads: "Statue of Liberty Centennial." They SING special lyrics to "Swanee."

BARNEY

(SINGING) The grandest...

BE SHARPS

(BIG FINISH) ... face-lift we ever did

see...

The doff their boaters.

BE SHARPS (CONT'D)

Hats off to that big Green Lady!

The CROWD APPLAUDS. President Reagan smiles and CLAPS, then turns to Nancy.

PRESIDENT REAGAN

Damned ceremonies. This is time I could be working, Mommy.

HOMER

(COYLY) We'd like to dedicate this next number to a very special woman. She's 100 years old, and she weighs over 200... (WINK) ... tons.

PANICKY MAN

This enormous woman will devour us all! (SCREAMS)

He leaps over a railing.

HOMER

(POINTING) I meant the statue.

INT. WIGGUM HOUSE - NIGHT

ON TV

A white-haired talk show host is wearing a turban and holding an envelope to his head.

TALK SHOW HOST

Okay...Gilligan, the Skipper and Chief Wiggum. (OPENS ENVELOPE) Name three castaways.

SIDEKICK

Hi-yo!

They both LAUGH.

BACK TO SCENE

Chief Wiggum GROWLS and SHOOTS several times at the TV with his revolver, missing it.

MRS. WIGGUM

Clancy, use the remote.

WIGGUM

I can't find it.

MRS. WIGGUM

Check your holster.

WIGGUM

Oh yeah.

He checks his holster and pulls out the remote. He changes the channel.

ON TV

We see a gossipy FEMALE TALK SHOW HOST.

FEMALE TALK SHOW HOST

Can we talk about Chief Wiggum?

(RETCHING SOUND)

The talk show host sticks her finger down her throat.

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY - PRESENT

SCENE 16

MARGE struggles to change the tire. Homer continues telling the story.

HOMER

Soon, we were off again -- this time

to the Grammy Awards...

INT. PRIVATE JET - DAY

Skinner, Apu and Barney sit up front, wearing sunglasses and Hawaiian shirts. They all have GROUPIES on their laps. Homer sits next to Nigel.

HOMER

I wish Marge was here.

NIGEL

Must we talk about Bouffant Betty?

HOMER

How come you never want to talk about her?

NIGEL

You don't want to know.

HOMER

Sure I do.

NIGEL

All right Homer. I'm very attracted to you, myself.

Nigel arches one eyebrow impossibly high.

HOMER

(QUICKLY CHANGING SUBJECT) Uh huh.

Hey, look at all those clouds out

there. They all look like something,

don't they? That one looks like two

men kissing. I mean, they're

professional ball players. There's

nothing funny going on.

NIGEL

Sob.

INT. CIVIC AUDITORIUM - NIGHT

We see a curtain reading "29TH ANNUAL GRAMMY AWARDS."

HOMER (V.O)

We had fame and fortune. Now all we needed was the approval of record company low-lifes.

DAVID CROSBY is standing at the Grammy podium.

DAVID CROSBY

And the Grammy for Outstanding Soul, Spoken word, or Barbershop Album of the Year, goes to... The Be Sharps! Congratulations!

The Be Sharps are at the podium, triumphantly waving fistfulls of Grammys. David Crosby stands behind them, smiling.

BARNEY

David Crosby, you're my hero!

DAVID CROSBY

You like my music?

BARNEY

You're a musician?

INT. HOTEL SUITE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

SCENE 17

Homer sits on the bed, still in his tuxedo with the tie loosened. His Grammy is on the nightstand. Homer is on the phone with Marge.

HOMER

So what was Lisa's favorite present?

INTERCUT INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM

We see the remnants of Lisa's birthday presents laying around the room. A "HAPPY BIRTHDAY LISA" banner is on the wall.

HOMER (V.O)

Did she like the Cadillac I sent her?

We see two-year-old Lisa on the floor TEARING pages out of the Cadillac owner's manual and eating them.

MARGE

She can't get enough of it. Here,

say hello to your birthday girl.

HOMER

Lisa, did you see the Grammys?

TWO-YEAR-OLD LISA

(INTO PHONE) You beat Falco!

HOMER

Well, he'll be back.

TWO-YEAR-OLD LISA

I miss you, Daddy.

HOMER

I miss you too, honey.

Homer hangs up, picks up his Grammy and exits out onto the balcony.

EXT. HOTEL BALCONY - CONTINUOUS

On the balcony, Homer looks out at the "Hollywood" sign. He looks over at a huge billboard showing a happy family with the slogan "Happy Family Brand Bourbon."

HOMER

(MOANS)

A TEENAGE BELLBOY appears at this side.

TEENAGE BELLBOY

Here's the champagne you ordered, Mr.

Simpson.

HOMER

Oh. Thanks.

He searches for a tip, then just gives the bellboy his Grammy.

HOMER (CONT'D)

Here.

TEENAGE BELLBOY

Wow! An award statue!

(DISAPPOINTED) Oh. It's a Grammy.

He tosses it over the balcony.

SURLY MAN (O.S.)

Hey! Don't throw your garbage down

here.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN: SCENE 18

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - EVENING - 1993

The kids are looking through a box of Be Sharps merchandise.

LISA

Wow, look at all this Be Sharps merchandise! Lunch boxes, coffee mugs, funny foam...

She holds up an aerosol can with Homer's face on it. She presses it -- foam SHOOTS out of Homer's mouth.

HOMER

They took the foam off the market because they found out it was poisonous. But if you ask me, if you're dumb enough to eat it, you deserve to die. (LOOKING O.S., SHARPLY) Bart!

CUT TO:

Bart with strings of funny foam hanging out of his mouth.

BART

(INNOCENTLY) What?

LISA

I can't believe you're not still popular.

BART

What'd you do... screw up like The Beatles and say you're bigger than Jesus?

HOMER

All the time. It was the title of our second album!

He holds up an album called "Bigger Than Jesus!" Bart and Lisa exchange a look.

HOMER (CONT'D)

But we were about to learn an iron law of show business: What goes up must come down.

LISA

What about Bob Hope? He's been consistently popular for over 50 years.

BART

So has Sinatra.

HOMER

Well, anyway, we were all getting tired of --

LISA

Dean Martin still packs 'em in.

BART

Ditto Tom Jones.

HOMER

Shut up!

MARGE

With your father on the road all the time I tried to compensate for his absence...

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

The kids are at the table. We see Marge has constructed a mock Homer with a picture of Homer as its head, a sack of potatoes for the gut, and balloon arms. She has a tape recorder in front of it and she presses the "play" button.

HOMER (V.O.)

Hi, kids... I love (SPEEDS UP

UNINTELLIGIBLY)

BART/LISA

(SCREAM)

Marge runs up to fix the tape. She accidentally knocks "Homer's" head off and one of his arms POPS.

BART/LISA (CONT'D)

(SCREAM)

HOMER (V.O.)

Meanwhile, the group was having problems of its own...

INT. RECORDING STUDIO - DAY

SCENE 19

Homer, Skinner, and Apu stand around a microphone.

HOMER/SKINNER/APU

(SING) For all the latest medical

poop/ Call Surgeon General, C.

Everett Koop/ Koop Koop Adoop

APU

This tune is not happening.

HOMER

I've written a hit song or two, Du

Beaumarchais. How many have you

written?... And where's Barney?

PRINCIPAL SKINNER

Oh, he's with his new girlfriend.

(CONTEMPTUOUS) The Japanese

conceptual artist.

Barney, sporting a beret, enters with his ORIENTAL GIRLFRIEND. They both wear black turtlenecks.

BARNEY

Barbershop is in danger of growing stale. I'm taking it to strange new places.

He pops a cassette into a tape player. We hear an atonal Revolution Number 9 type song.

KAKO (V.O.)

(SPOKEN) Number 8.

BARNEY (V.O.)

(BELCH)

KAKO (V.O.)

(SPOKEN) Number 8.

BARNEY (V.O.)

(BELCH)

KAKO (V.O.)

(SPOKEN) Number 8.

BARNEY (V.O.)

(BELCH)

INT. AUDITORIUM - NIGHT

HOMER (V.O.)

And then came the greatest threat of all. A new kind of music, born in the savage streets of Switzerland...

We see the Be Sharps backstage looking at a MAN in Lederhosen on stage.

MAN IN LEDERHOSEN

Yodel lay-hee, Yodel lay-hee, Yodelay-hee-e-e--.

PRINCIPAL SKINNER

These dangerous Alpine rhythms appeal right to the pelvis.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

The Be Sharps watch late-night TV.

HOMER (V.O.)

Then, came the day we knew we were finished...

ON TV SCENE 20

TALKSHOW HOST

Mr. Howell, Ginger, and the Be Sharps.

TALKSHOW HOST

(OPENS ENVELOPE) Name three castaways.

SIDEKICK

Hi yo! (LAUGHS)

EXT. SPRINGFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - DAY

Skinner returns to school.

PRINCIPAL SKINNER

Ah, to return at last to the groves of academe. (TO O.S. BOY) Get your mouth off of that drinking fountain, young man.

We see a RALPHISH BOY with his mouth stuck entirely around the drinking spigot.

RALPHISH BOY

(MOUTH STUCK) It's stuck!

INT. QWIK-E-MART - DAY

Apu puts on his apron.

APU

It may not be glamorous, but it's good honest work.

A WOMAN with a BABY walks up.

WOMAN WITH BABY

How much is this quart of milk?

APU

Twelve dollars.

INT. MOE'S TAVERN - DAY

Barney and Kako sit at the counter.

MOE

(FRIENDLY) Hey, Barney, what'll it

be?

BARNEY

I'd like a beer Moe.

KAKO

I'd like a single plum floating in perfume, served in a man's hat.

MOE

Here you go.

He immediately pulls out a beer and a plum floating in perfume, served in a brown derby.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - DAY

Homer KNOCKS on the door. It opens and the kids run out.

BART/LISA

Daddy!

They joyously wrap themselves around his legs.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HOMER AND MARGE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Homer and Marge are in their pajamas. A happy Marge lies next to Homer. Homer kisses her playfully.

HOMER

(SEDUCTIVELY) Marge, I missed you.

MARGE

Homie... What if the kids hear?

HOMER

Don't worry. They're asleep.

PAN DOWN to Homer's legs. Bart and Lisa are still wrapped around them, asleep.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - THE PRESENT SCENE 21

Homer is on the couch with Bart and Lisa.

HOMER

I'll never forget my five-and-a-half weeks at the top.

BART

Man, that's some story.

LISA

But there are still a few things I don't get. Like how come we never heard about this until today?

BART

Yeah, and what happened to the money you made?

LISA

Why haven't you hung up your gold record?

BART

Since when could you write a song?

LISA

Where's my Cadillac?

HOMER

(CHUCKLES) There are perfectly good answers to those questions, but they'll have to wait for another night. Now off to bed.

The kids exit. Homer looks at the album thoughtfully, then picks up the phone.

MOE'S TAVERN - ROOFTOP - NEXT DAY

Homer goes up on the roof of Moe's Tavern. Skinner, Apu, and Barney are already there.

PRINCIPAL SKINNER

(NOSTALGIC) I can't remember the last time we were all together.

APU

Last year when we sang for Lawyer Aid.

HOMER

(PROUDLY) We raised fifty million dollars for corporate lawyers.

BARNEY

And a one and a two and a three...

SKINNER

Ba bum bum bum...

BE SHARPS

(SINGS) Baby on board/ how I've adored/ that sign on my car's windowpane...

ANGLE STREET

Passers by turn and listen to the song. They point to the roof, in scenes reminiscent of the rooftop concert in "Let It Be."

EXT. PITCH PIPE BLDG.

We see a HUMAN FLY in a cape and colorful costume is climbing up the side of the building. A crowd has gathered watching him. As the Be Sharps start to sing, the crowd turns and watches them.

HUMAN FLY

(WIMPY VOICE) Hello... Human Fly here... C'mon. I stayed up all night dying my underwear.

ANGLE ON PAPER BOY

SCENE 22

He runs with a stack of papers under his arm.

PAPER BOY

Extra, extra! Be Sharps sing on rooftop!

MAN

What? Gimme one of those!

He buys a paper and quickly looks through it.

MAN (CONT'D)

Wait a minute! There's nothing in here about the Be Sharps. Come back here!

He chases after the paper boy, who has run off.

PAPER BOY

Haw haw!

ANGLE PAUL MCCARTNEY

In a car. He looks out the window

PAUL MCCARTNEY

It's been done.

ANGLE - WIGGUM & LOU

They're listening from a parked patrol car.

LOU

Pretty, eh, Chief?

WIGGUM

It sure is, Lou... It sure is.

Slowly PULL BACK to a wide shot.

WIGGUM (CONT'D)

Get the tear gas.

BE SHARPS

... a trip to paradise/ with my ba-

by... on board!

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT THREE